

Dear parents,

As you have probably heard all schools in England will close to most students at the end of the day on Friday. As a result of this we have been told that all exams for Year 11 and 13 have been cancelled.

We have not yet been informed of how grades will be given to the students but are expecting that information tomorrow. I want to assure you we will do all that we can to ensure pupils are not disadvantaged through this and are able to progress in their education. We will be flexible with entry requirements to the sixth form.

As we do not yet know how pupils will be graded we ask that you encourage your child to continue with any coursework they have for example BTEC assignments as these may still contribute to a grade. We will review that based on further information from the government.

Today will be the final day for Year 11. They will be gathered together at the end of the day for an informal reflection and to be given reassurances.

We would like Year 13s to come to school tomorrow at 10 am for a short gathering as an unofficial goodbye.

When we reopen we will be rearranging leaving assemblies, services and prom for Year 11 and Year 13. It is important that they are able to celebrate their time at Our Lady's and we want to celebrate with them too.

Pupils will feel a range of emotions about this decision but they must remember that their years in school has given them knowledge and skills that are theirs to keep. It is the learning that mattered.

Thank you for trusting us with the education of your child. We have been a richer community for their presence. This is obviously not how we would want to finish their time at school but if they are moving on in September I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your support and wish them all the best for the future. As we always say, they will always be part of the Our Lady's family and they can come and visit or ask for help whenever they need it.

Please take care of one another and keep the Our Lady's Community in your prayers.

Yours sincerely

Helen Seddon